

September 11, 2021

Dear parishioners,

Recently I read and reflected upon the official document signed and promulgated by Archbishop Blair from Synod 2020: Grow and Go. The following excerpt is taken from his opening remarks to the Synod delegates at the assembly held in October 2019. (The complete report may be found at [www.archdioceseofhartford.org](http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org))

*“Jesus says, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.’ Our personal encounter with Christ bathes us in new light, sets us on the right path, and sends us out to be his witnesses. This new way of looking at the world and at people, which comes to us from him, leads us more deeply into the mystery of faith, which is not just a collection of theoretical assertions to be accepted and approved by the mind but an experience to be had, a truth to be lived, the salt and light of all reality. Let the gospel be the measure and guide of life’s decisions and plans.”*

These are powerful sentiments that remind us of the importance of maintaining a sincere and everyday relationship with Our Lord Jesus and the Church, the Body of Christ. We are given new life and hope through our faith and are sustained by His love, which is made know to us in so many ways, including the sacraments.

As I have said before, in the midst of all the changes and challenges of life, we are to remain prayerful, hopeful, and united by God’s grace. This is so important to remember as the work of pastoral planning here in the Archdiocese, through the lens of the Synod, goes forward here in Waterbury and beyond. Again, as the Archbishop mentions, let the Good News of Jesus Christ be our touchstone.

All the way – to God’s embrace.

Sincerely,

Father Lavorgna